

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EUR-12 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 /154 W
-----020462 292123Z /62

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2360
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 9308

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, UNGA, TH
SUBJ: SSOD: MILITARY EXPENDITURE REPORTING AND LIMITATIONS (MER/L)

REF: STATE 076583

1. EMBOFF ON MAR 29 DISCUSSED WITH MFA OFFICIAL SUBJECT OF MILITARY EXPENDITURE REPORTING AND LIMITATIONS (MER/L) AND LEFT AIDE MEMOIRE INCLUDING TALKING POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL. MFA OFFICIAL SAID THAT SINCE THAILAND HAS SUPPORTED WESTERN AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 32/85 AT UNGA, HE PRESUMED RTG WOULD ALSO SUPPORT SWEDISH LANGUAGE FOR INCLUSION IN SSOD ACTION PROGRAM. HE SAID MFA HAD NOT, HOWEVER, RECEIVED SYG INQUIRY RE PARTICIPATION IN MER PILOT STUDY. MFA OFFICIAL (WHO ATTENDED 32ND UNGA AS ADVISOR TO THE FIRST COMMITTEE) TOLD EMBOFF HE WOULD CABLE THAI MISSION TO UN IN NEW YORK, ASKING THEM RTO FORWARD SYG INQUIRY OF JANUARY 4 IF MISSION HAD RECEIVED IT. HE EXPLAINED THA SYG'S MESSAGE WOULD BE NECESSARY IN ORDER FOR THAILAND EVEN TO CONSIDER PARTICIPATION. GIVEN TIME LIMITATIONS, HOWEVER, HE DOUBTED THAT THAILAND WOULD BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE. DECISION ON PARTICIPATION WOULD REST WITH "OTHER AUTHORITIES" (PRESUMABLY MILITARY).
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LATER IN CONVERSATION MFA OFFICIAL SAID HE WOULD BE MEETING WITH OFFICIALS FROM OTHER BRANCHES OF RTG TO WORK OUT GUIDELINES FOR THAI DELEGATION TO SSOD. (DELEGATION HAS NOT YET BEEN NAMED.) EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT ISSUE OF THAI PARTICIPATION IN PILOT STUDY MIGHT USEFULLY BE DISCUSSED ON THAT OCCASION. MFA OFFICIAL REPLIED THAT HE WOULD FIRST HAVE TO CHECK ON SYF'S INQUIRY.

2. MFA OFFICIAL HAD COPY OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S SPEECH OF MARCH 17 AT WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY ON DEFENSE POLICY. HE COMMENTED THAT SOME OF THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS ON THAT OCCASION ABOUT U.S. DEFENSE POLICY WOULD CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE U.S. AT THE SSOD. EMBOFF POINTED OUT PRESIDENT'S REMARKS RE DISARMAMENT, BUT MFA OFFICIAL REITERATED THAT HE ANTICIPATED NEGATIVE REACTIONS TO THE SPEECH AT THE SSOD. HE THEN ASKED WHETHER PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE ATTENDING SSOD, NOTING THAT HE HAD SEEN PRESS SPECULATION THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD ATTEND IF BREZHNEV DID. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT WE DID NOT KNOW BUT WOULD INQUIRE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE NOTIFY US WHETHER PRESIDENT WILL ATTEND SO THAT WE CAN INFORM THE THAI.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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